

From John L. Clark, 616 Amity Street, Homestead, Pa.

GRAYS AT NEWARK

For Immediate
Release

NEXT SUNDAY

Champs Expect to Beat Manleyites in Their Own Backyard

Pittsburgh, Pa.--Not satisfied with handing Newark Eagles a double lacing in Washington, D. C. on Easter Sunday, Homestead Grays are primed to repeat the trick next Sunday, May 9th in Newark. Unless the Manley crew is better fortified than they were in the first setto, that's exactly what will happen.

The Grays are not cocky, but they believe they have a better "war-time" aggregation than any other Negro National League club. The outfield is better than most clubs can assemble in peace times--"Cool Papa" Bell, Jerry Benjamin and Sammy Bankhead. These men have been patrolling that secyion of the baseball diamond for a few years and know all the tricks. Bell and Benjamin are "switch" hitters, and none of them are "loafers" on the bases.

There is a slight gamble on the infield. Spencer, a newcomer, will take the place of "Lick" Carlisle at second. He will team with Wyatt or Chester Williams at short. Wyatt has the endorsement of Manager Jin Taylor and Chester Williams is the "pepper pot" who has made every East-West game but two since the classic was introduced ten years ago. Buck Leonard will be back at first and the "hot corner will be guarded by Easterling or Jud Wilson. "Rab" Roy Gaston is back in action and will alternate with Josh Gibson in backstopping. With a rest now and then, it is expected that Gibson will strike his oldtime hittin_g form.

But all is not rosy with the Grays. The pitching staff has only two men from last year's squad. Partlow, Welmaker are not headed this way. J. C. Hamilton has not recovered from an arm injury sustained last year. Blair joined the colors at the close of the 1942 season and Carter has not made up his mind. Fields might be available when school closes in June.

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Shields, a lefthander, Stevenson and West, righthanders, make up a five man staff with Brown and Wright included. So far, these new hurlers show promise, but it is hard to predict how they will perform when the going gets rough. The front office was never satisfied with a five-man pitching staff, and they've requested all short wave stations to report movements of any ~~xxx~~ and all good pitchers who want to work for a winning ball club.

After invading Newark on May 9th, the Grays and Eagles play out a schedule in Virginia as follows: May 10th, Richmond; May 11th and 12th, Norfolk; May 13th, Newport News. The teams split out after the Newport News date and the Grays travel homeward to open the Negro National League season at Forbes Field, Pittsburgh with Baltimore Elites. The same teams meet again Sunday, May 16th in Washington, D. C.

Lineup

1--Bell cf
2--Benjamin lf
4--Leonard 1b
20--Gibson c
5--Bankhead ss
8--Wilson 3b
7--Easterling rf
6--Spencer 2b

Pitchers
11--Brown
17--Shields
12--Stevenson
17--Wright
16--West
10--Jim Taylor, Maganer
14--Gaston c

All industrial, defense or military service teams seeking dates with Homestead Grays, should communicate with S. H. Posey, Business Manager, 616 Amity Street, Homestead, Pa.